

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended) A well cementing composition comprising a trimodal blend of particulate materials present as fine, medium and coarse particle size fractions, the particulate materials including cement, flexible particles, and a filler, ~~characterized in that the cement comprises comprising~~ only the fine particle size fraction, and the flexible particles and filler ~~comprise comprising~~ the medium and coarse particle size fractions allowing a control of the mechanical properties of the set cement independently of density of the cementing composition slurry.

2 (Original) The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fine particle size fraction has an average particle size of 10 microns or less; the medium particle size fraction has an average particle size of 20 to 100 microns; and the large particle size fraction has an average particle size of 100 to 400 microns.

3 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the cement comprises micro-cement or a mixture of micro-cement and slag.

4 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed ~~in any preceding claim in claim 1~~, wherein the blend has a packing volume fraction of at least 0.78.

5 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed ~~in any preceding claim in claim 1~~, wherein the medium and large particle size fractions comprise high-density fillers and flexible particles.

6 (Original) The composition as claimed in claim 5, wherein the high-density fillers comprise hematite or ilmenite.

7 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 5 ~~or 6~~ when mixed with water to form a slurry having a density above 1.92g/cm³(16 ppg).

8 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed ~~in claims 1 – 4 in claim 1~~, wherein the medium and large particle size fractions comprise low-density fillers and flexible particles.

9 (Original) The composition as claimed in claim 8, wherein the low-density fillers comprise hollow glass beads, hollow aluminosilicate particles, microspheres, cenospheres, or hollow ceramic beads.

10 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 8 ~~or 9~~ when mixed with water to form a slurry having a density below 1.44g/cm³(12 ppg).

11 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed ~~in any of claims 5 – 10 in claim 5~~, wherein the flexible particles comprise ground rubbers, polyethylene, polypropylene or styrene-divinylbenzene.

12 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, comprising:

- 10 – 30% BVOB fine particles;
- 20 – 40% BVOB medium particles; and
- 40 – 55% BVOB coarse particles.

13 (Original) The composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the fine particles contain 10 – 25% BVOB cement.

14 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein the fine particles contain 10 – 15% manganese tetroxide.

15 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein the fine particles contain up to 10 % BVOB silica.

16 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 – 15~~ claim 12,
wherein the medium particles comprise hematite.

17 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 – 16~~ claim 12,
wherein the medium particles contain rubber, synthetic rubber, polypropylene or silica.

18 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 – 17~~ claim 12,
wherein the coarse particles contain up to 35% BVOB hematite.

19 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 – 17~~ claim 12,
wherein the coarse particles contain 15 – 40% BVOB rubber.

20 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 – 17~~ claim 12,
wherein the coarse particles contain 35 – 52% BVOB silica.

21 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 – 17~~ claim 12,
wherein the coarse particles contain about 55% BVOB rubber, synthetic rubber, or
polypropylene.

22 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1,
wherein the cement content of the blend is less than 30% BVOB.

23 (Original) The composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein the cement
content is less than 25% BVOB.

24 (Original) The composition as claimed in claim 23, wherein the cement
content is less than 20% BVOB.

25 (Original) The composition as claimed in claim 24, wherein the cement
content is less than 15% BVOB.

26 (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any preceding claim-claim 1~~,
wherein the mechanical properties comprise the Young's Modulus.